

ABSTRACT

1 Various embodiments provide systems and methods that can be utilized to
2 remotely manage operating system deployments. Various features can allow a
3 system administrator to plan and schedule operating system or image deployment
4 on various computers or machines throughout an organization. Planning and
5 scheduling image deployment, in accordance with the various systems and
6 methods described below, can take place in bandwidth-sensitive environments and
7 are easily scalable. Various embodiments can provide an imaging process that
8 seamlessly migrates data and/or state (e.g. machine/client/user data and state) to a
9 newly-imaged operating system. In addition, at least some embodiments can
10 provide end users with flexibility to alter the behavior of the image deployment
11 within policies that are specified by the system administrator. Additional
12 embodiments provide a rich mechanism by which status reports are generated and
13 sent to the system administrator to assist them in managing the deployment.
14 Further embodiments can conduct operating system deployment *in-place*, meaning
15 that additional disk partitions are not required.